

**GENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT**

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SECRET**COUNTRY** **Czechoslovakia****REPORT****SUBJECT** **Production of Antibiotics and Ex-
perimentation in Blood Plasma Substitutes****DATE DISTR.** 8 November 1955
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Information**

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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Production of Antibiotics

1. Penicillin and streptomycin produced at the Rostoky plant is of a very inferior quality. To date they have not succeeded in making streptomycin crystals at this plant. The streptomycin is frozen to 45 degrees Celsius and then put under vacuum, dried, and finally reduced to a powder. This powder is very much inferior to the streptomycin crystals produced in the United States. Experiments in producing aureomycin have so far attained no positive results. The annual production of penicillin at the Rostoky plant is estimated to be 100 billion units. This plant has six tanks of ten thousand liters capacity each.

2. Some penicillin is produced at the Biogena plant.² [] there are any other plants producing penicillin or streptomycin in the country. 25X1 25X1

3. The domestic production of penicillin is not adequate for Czech needs. Czechoslovakia imports large quantities of Streptomycin is imported mainly [] Aureomycin and terramycin come mainly [] Chloromycin is produced in sufficient quantities synthetically for Czech needs. 25X1 25X1 25X1

Experimentation in Blood Plasma Substitutes

4. Substitutes for blood plasma are currently being produced by the Czechs. There has been experimentation in this field but it has been unsuccessful to date.³ Dextran, the synthetic blood plasma, has not been produced successfully in the Rostoky plant nor in the Institute for Hematology of Charles University. These attempts have been completely unsuccessful.

5. Since there is no synthetic blood plasma substitute available, whole blood must be used.

6. Whole blood is collected at various collection stations throughout the country and is separated into plasma and blood cells. The plasma is sent by truck to Rostoky. There the plasma is made into a powder and preserved by freezing it and storing it in a vacuum.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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1. [] **Comment:** The present name of this plant as given in the telephone directory is Penicilin n.p., zavody na výrobu antibiotik a suseň krevní plazmy v Rostokach u Prahy.

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2. [] **Comment:** The present name of this plant is Biogena n.p., zavod pro výrobu ser a očkovacích látok, Praha (Prague).

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3. [] **Comment:** Experimentation in substitutes for blood plasma have [redacted] at the Rostoky plant since 1949, at the initiative of the army. [redacted] these experiments were unsuccessful up to 1953.

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